

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 ACDA-10 OMB-01

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PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /072 W

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R 241145Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2584

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TELAVIV

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1317

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF SECRETARY'S MISSION: KUWAITI REACTION

1. FRONT PAGES MARCH 24 KUWAITI PRESS LARGELY GIVEN OVER TO SUSPENSION OF SECRETARY'S MISSION, RELYING ON WIRE SERVICES FOR STORIES. HEADLINES: AS SIYASA - "AFTER COLLAPSE OF KISSINGER MISSION WAR ATMOSPHERE HANGS OVER ALL FRONTS. SADAT: WE ARE NOT ANXIOUS* EGYPT WILL CALL FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE DURING COMING DAYS." AR RA'I AL AM - "AS KISSINGER DEPARTS DRAGGING TAIL OF FAILURE, SYRIA PRAISES EGYPT'S COURAGEOUS STAND AND ABU IYAD FLIES TO CAIRO FOR MEETING WITH SADAT. THE POSITION: IF GENEVA NOT COVENED, THEN WAR IS CERTAIN. AMERICA THREATENS TO REVIEW ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL." ENGLISH LANGUAGE KUWAIT TIMES - "SAD DAY FOR AMERICA, SAD DAY FOR ISRAEL". HARD DAYS AHEAD FOR KISSINGER. DEEPT DISAPPOINTMENT IN U.S. OVER COLLAPSE OF MISSION. BLOW FOR SADAT AND BOON TO SOVIETS."

2. EDITORIALS VARY. AS SIYASA'S OWNES-EDITOR IN CHIEF AHMED

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JARALLA PRAISES SADAT'S STEADFASTNESS, HIS COMMON CAUSE WITH

ARABS AND HIS THWARTING OF ISRAELI DIPLOMACY. HE TERMS ISRAEL "EXPANSIONIST" AND "THREAT TO ALL ARAB COUNTRIES". IN IDENTICAL EDITORIALS, AR RA'I AL AM AND DAILY NEWS CALL FOR ARAB SUMMIT TO FORM COMMON ARAB POLICY BEFORE GOING TO GENEVA AND ASKS MOROCCAN KING TAKE LEAD IN CONVOKING IT. NO MENTION OF EGYPT BY NAME. KUWAIT TIMES MORE EXPLICITLY HAS SAME LINE: "ARAB STATES MUST IMMEDIATELY OVERRIDE FAHMI DEMAND FOR GENEVA TALKS AND INSIST THAT PAN-ARAB MEETING IS FIRST CONVENED TO DECIDE ON NEXT ARAB MOVES."

3. FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING. GOK MINISTER OF STATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS, ABDEL AZIZ HUSSEIN, TOLD NEWSMEN: "OBSTINATE STAND OF ISRAELIS, WHO HAD TRIED TO PRESS FOR UNFAIR DEAL, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KISSINGER FAILURE. CABINET REITERATES KUWAIT'S CLEAR STAND CONCERNING LIBERATION OF ARAB LANDS AND RESTORATION OF LEGAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

4. PRIVATELY, NUMBER OF KUWAITIS HAVE EXPRESSED TO US THEIR DISMAY THAT NO AGREEMENT REACHED, BUT ONE ACADEMIC SAID THAT BREAK-DOWN WILL GREATLY HELP SADAT'S IMAGE IN ARAB WORLD. PALESTINIAN COMMUNITY HERE SEEMS PLEASE AT OUTCOME.
STOLTZFUS

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